EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING ADMINISTRATION ADVISORY SYSTEM U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR Washington, D.C. 20210

CLASSIFICATION UI CORRESPONDENCE SYMBOL OWS/DUIO DATE October 19, 2006

ADVISORY:

ET HANDBOOK NO. 401, 3RD EDITION, CHANGE 17

TO:

STATE WORKFORCE AGENCIES

FROM:

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Administrator

Office of Workforce Security

SUBJECT:

Employment and Training Administration (ETA) 902, Disaster

Unemployment Assistance (DUA) Activities Report

- 1. Purpose. To advise State Workforce Agencies that form ETA 902 definitions, data elements, and reporting instructions will now be included in Section IV, Chapter 10 of ET Handbook No. 401, and to notify states of the new due date.
- 2. References. Sections 410 and 423 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, regulations implementing the DUA program at 20 CFR Part 625 and ET Handbook No. 356, 2nd Edition (January 2003) Disaster Unemployment Assistance.
- 3. <u>Background</u>. Currently, the ETA 902 activities report is contained only in the Disaster Unemployment Assistance Handbook, ET No. 356 Second Edition. State Workforce Agencies (SWAs), through individual agreements with the Secretary of Labor, act as agents of the Federal government for the purpose of administering the DUA program. SWAs are required to use form ETA 902, Disaster Unemployment Assistance Activities, to report monthly information on the nature and scope of activities performed in administering DUA.
- 4. OMB Approval. The reporting requirements for form ETA 902 are approved according to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 under OMB approval No. 1205-0051 through June 30, 2008. The Secretary's authority to implement this reporting requirement is found in Section 303(a)(6) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 505(a)(6)). Persons are not required to respond to this collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.
- 5. Effective Date. These definitions, data elements, and reporting instructions are effective immediately. The new due date for submitting the report is the 30th of the month following the month to which data relate.

- 6. <u>Instructions for Handbook Maintenance</u>. Insert Chapter 10, ETA 902, Disaster Unemployment Assistance Activities, Section IV-10 in ET Handbook No. 401, 3rd Edition, Section IV, Special Programs.
- 7. <u>Inquiries</u>. Questions should be directed to the appropriate Regional Office.
- 8. Attachment. Chapter 10, Section IV of ET Handbook No. 401, 3rd Edition.

UI REPORTS HANDBOOK NO. 401 ETA 902, Disaster Unemployment Assistance Activities

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ETA 902, Disaster Unemployment Assistance Activities

A. Facsimile

Disaster Unemplo Activities	ymen	t Assistance	U.S. Department of Labor Employment and Training Administration											
This report is requ with 20 CFR Part		n accordance							pproval N on Date:			1		
REPORT PERIOD ENDED		STATE	FEMA DR. NO			REPORT TYPE		D	DECLARATI DATE				UNCEMENT DATE	
Section A. Applicati	on and	Payment Activiti	es			<u> </u>								
CATEGORY	LINE NO.	INITI	INITIAL APPLICATIONS		NO. DETERMII ELIGIBL			RST MENTS					AMOUNT COMP.	
		1	1		2			3	4	4			6	
Total	101											\$		
Self-employed	102													
Section B. Denial a	nd App	eals Activity		•										
CATEGORY	LINE NO.		APPEALS FIL		.ED	APPEALS		S DISPOSED		FAVOR OF APPELLAN		PPELLANT		
		DENIED	STATE		RA		STA	TE	RA		STATE		RA	
		7		3	9		10)	11	12			13	
Total	201													
Self-employed	202													
Section C. Overpay	ment A	Activity and Admir	istration											
CATEGORY	LINE NO.		OVERPAYMENTS					ADMI			NISTRATIVE COSTS			
		CASES	WEEKS		AMC	AMOUNT		PERSONNEL		NPS		AS&T		
		14	15		16		17			18		19		
TOTAL	301					\$		\$	\$		\$		\$	
FRAUD	302					\$								
SIGNATURE							E							

Persons are not required to respond to this collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. Respondents' obligation to reply to these reporting requirements is required to obtain or retain benefits and is mandatory per 20 CFR 625. Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 1/6 hour per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing date sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of the collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to the Employment and Training Administration, Office of Workforce Security, Department of Labor, Room S-4231, 200 Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20210 (Paperwork Reduction Project 1205-0051)

ETA 902 Rev. April 2005

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B. Purpose

The ETA 902 report contains monthly data on Disaster Unemployment Assistance activities when there is a disaster declared by the President.

C. Scope and Duration of the Report

- 1. Submit a separate report for each major disaster declared in a state where an announcement has been made by the state agency of the availability of DUA.
- 2. The first report shall be sent in the month following the announcement date, and later reports shall be sent each month that DUA activity continues to occur, such as for payments made for weeks in the disaster assistance period (DAP) issued as a result of appeals.
- 3. Generally, states incur a certain amount of administrative costs even if no DUA benefits are paid. In these cases, a <u>final</u> ETA 902 must still be submitted. In Section C: columns 17-19, indicate the amount of administrative funds provided by FEMA.

D. <u>Due Date</u> and Transmittal

Reports shall be submitted electronically each month providing DUA activities performed during the preceding calendar month. Reports are due in the National Office on the 30th of the month following the month to which data relate. (South Pacific Island jurisdictions must submit hardcopy reports, as there is no electronic submittal method available to them at this time.)

For South Pacific Island jurisdictions, one copy should be sent to the National Office addressed as follows:

U.S. Department of Labor, ETA Attn: Office of Workforce Security Frances Perkins Building 200 Constitution Avenue, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20210 Attention: Miriam Thompson-DUIO

One copy should be sent to the San Francisco ETA Regional Office.

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E. General Reporting Instructions

- 1. In all instructions, reference to State UI (UC) claims will include UCFE, UCX, TRA, RRA (Railroad), EB, and any other program included and/or defined under 20 CFR 625.2(d).
- 2. Self-employed applicants are those who have filed an initial request for DUA and for whom it was determined that their primary reliance for income is on their performance of services in their own business or farm.
- 3. Payments of UI made to replace erroneously paid DUA should not be reported on the ETA 902, but should be reported on the appropriate UI reports, i.e., ETA 5159.

F. Definitions

- 1. <u>Effective Date of an Initial Application</u>. The effective day is the first day of the first week of unemployment provided that week of unemployment is in the disaster assistance period (DAP).
- 2. <u>Eligible</u>. Meets qualifications for receiving Disaster Unemployment Assistance, as specified at 20 CFR 625.4. Under 20 CFR 625.4(i), if an individual is eligible for UC, such individual is not eligible for DUA and should not be counted in any DUA Activities report.

G. <u>Item by Item Instructions</u>

- 1. Report Period Ended. Enter the month, last day of the month, and four digit year to which the data relate; e.g., 01/31/1998.
- 2. <u>State</u>. Enter the two-letter FIPS State Alpha Code (identical to the two-letter U.S. Postal Service abbreviation) of the State or South Pacific Island jurisdiction as it appears in FIPS Publication 5-2. This Federal Information Processing Standards publication was issued by the National Institute of Standards and Technology on May 28, 1987.
- 3. <u>FEMA Declaration No.</u> Enter the FEMA disaster identification number assigned by the FEMA National Office at the time of a disaster.

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- 4. **Report Type.** Enter "I" for interim if the disaster workload and/or payment activity is on-going. Enter "F" for final if the disaster workload and/or payment activity has ended.
- 5. <u>Declaration Date.</u> Enter the date the President declared the major disaster; e.g., 08/29/2005. (This was formerly entitled announcement date on the old ETA 902 form.)
- 6. Announcement Date. Enter the date the state agency or South Pacific Island jurisdiction announced the availability of DUA through the media in accordance with 20 CFR 625.17; e.g., 09/01/2006.

7. Section A. Application and Payment Activities

- a. <u>Column 1, Initial Applications</u>. Enter the number of initial applications for DUA taken during the report period. This will equal the number of initial applications that were completed and/or number of applications entered into an automated system through an electronic/telephone claimstaking system during the report period. Do <u>not</u> include individuals eligible for UC where it may have been necessary, due to the filing environment, to accept initial claims for both programs.
- b. <u>Column 2, Number Determined Eligible</u>. Enter the number of individuals determined eligible for DUA during the report period. Do not include individuals eligible for UC where it may have been necessary, due to the filing environment, to accept initial claims for both programs.
- c. <u>Column 3, First Payments</u>. Enter the number of payments which represent, for any individual, the first week for which assistance is paid in the disaster assistance period.
- d. <u>Column 4, Weeks Claimed</u>. Enter the total number of weeks for which DUA is claimed during the report period whether or not DUA is actually paid. If claims are filed weekly, the number of weeks will equal the number of weekly received during the report period. If claims are filed other than weekly claims, the number of weeks will equal the number of weeks during the report period.
- e. <u>Column 5, Weeks Compensated</u>. Enter the number of weeks of unemployment for which DUA was paid during the report period. A week of unemployment compensated is any week of unemployment for which DUA funds are paid, regardless of amount.

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f. Column 6, Amount Compensated. Enter the amount of DUA funds represented by the weeks reported in column 5.

8. Section B. Denial and Appeals Activity

a. <u>Column 7, Weeks of DUA Denied</u>. Enter the number of weeks of unemployment where a DUA payment was denied for which an individual, except for the reason of the denial, would have been eligible to receive a DUA payment.

NOTE: For columns 8 through 13, the entries refer to the number of cases received or disposed of during the report period by authority (i.e., first level state appeals authority and the ETA Regional Administrator (RA) as the second level). All cases, including cases disposed of before reaching the appeals authority, should be included. Definitions of case, authority, disposal, etc., are those developed for the DUA program where found or, when these do not exist, are those used in the state UI program.

- b. Columns 8 and 9, Appeals Filed. In columns 8 and 9 distribute, by type of authority, the appeal cases or requests for review received during the month. In addition, provide a sub-breakout of the Total for self-employed individuals in line 202.
- c. <u>Columns 10 and 11, Appeals Disposed</u>. Enter in columns 10 and 11 the total number of cases disposed during the month by authority level. In line 202, provide the number of cases disposed of involving self-employed individuals.
- d. Columns 12 and 13, Favor of Appellant. Enter in columns 12 and 13 the number of appeal decisions included in columns 10 and 11, which were in favor of the appellant by authority level. In line 202 enter a breakout of self-employed individuals who appealed and had the decision in their favor.

9. Section C. Overpayment Activity and Administration

a. Columns 14, 15, and 16, Overpayments. In column 14, Cases, line 301, enter the number of cases, including willful misrepresentation (fraud) determined during the report period as an overpayment, regardless of when it occurred. In line 302 provide a sub-breakout of the number of cases determined as fraud cases. In column 15, Weeks, enter in line 301 the number of weeks of DUA overpaid in connection with the cases reported in column 14; enter the number of weeks of fraud overpayments included in line 301. In column 16, Amount, enter in line 301, the amount overpaid represented by cases reported in column 14. Provide a sub-breakout of the amount involving fraud in line 302.

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b. Columns 17, 18 and 19, Administrative Costs. If available on a monthly basis, entries are needed in these items to monitor state agency expenditures and to support requests for additional administrative funds from FEMA. Enter in column 17, Personnel Costs (PC), the amount of personal service (salary) costs and personnel benefits (health, retirement, etc.) costs for staff performing DUA activities. In column 18, Non Personal Services (NPS), enter the total dollars expended for non-personal service costs (e.g., supplies, travel, equipment, etc.) attributable to DUA administration. Enter in column 19, Administrative, Support and Technical (AS&T), the total PC and NPS costs for staff performing AS&T functions to support the staff reported in column 17. If administrative costs are not available for the month to which data relate, to the extent possible, states should amend the report when the information becomes available. At a minimum states should ensure the data are provided on a subsequent report during the quarter to which the data apply.

H. Checking the Report.

1. General Checks.

Entries should be made for all required items. If the item is inapplicable, or if applicable but no activity corresponding to the items occurred during the report period, a zero should be entered. A report containing missing data cannot be sent to the National Office, but can be stored on the state's system. Special attention should be given the entries in the heading because the "FEMA DR No." and "Declaration Date" will be used to identify and accumulate data from reports relating to individual disasters.

2. Arithmetic Checks.

- a. For columns 1, 2, and 8 through 13, the entries in line 102 and 202 respectively, should be equal to or less than the entries in line 101 or 201.
- b. For columns 14 through 16, the entries in line 302 should be equal to or less than line 301.

3. Signature.

Signature is only required if reports are sent manually to the National Office.